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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 7 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on 3 February 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union on the Angolan peace process.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under the agenda item 'Review of the implementation of the declaration on the strengthening of international security'.

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of the
Netherlands to the United Nations

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ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 3 February 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union on the Angolan peace process

The European Union welcomes recent progress towards the implementation of the Lusaka protocol, in particular the incorporation of senior officers of UNITA into the Angolan armed forces. The Union regrets however that over the past few weeks a number of difficulties have delayed the peace process and that it was not possible either to secure the swearing-in of UNITA deputies or to establish a Government of Unity and National Reconciliation as had been agreed for 17 and 25 January 1997.

The European Union stresses, particularly to the UNITA leadership, the importance of their deputies, future ministers and vice-ministers getting to Luanda by 12 February 1997 as determined by the Joint Commission so that a Government of Unity and National Reconciliation can be established as soon as possible thereafter and, in accordance with resolution 1087 (1996) of the Security Council, without this being linked to other issues.

The European Union calls upon the Government of Angola and UNITA to resolve the remaining obstacles so that a lasting peace can be achieved and programmes of economic and social rehabilitation can be fully implemented.

The European Union reaffirms its support for the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Angola, Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye, and to the three observer States to the Angolan peace process, Portugal, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.